

Message Text

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ACTION ARA-20

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 DEAE-00 CIAE-00 INR-10 IO-13 JUSE-00

NSAE-00 RSC-01 SNM-02 SY-10 TRSE-00 USIA-15 NSC-10

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FM AMEMBASSY MEXICO

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 8077

C O N F I D E N T I A L MEXICO 7116

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: SNAR/MX

SUBJECT: NARCOTICS CONTROL

REF: A) MEXICO 6865 B) MEXICO 6818

1. CHARGE CALLED ON ATTORNEY GENERAL OJEDA PAULLADA TODAY TO, 1) INTRODUCE VISITING COUNTRY DIRECTOR PHIL TORREY, 2) FOLLOW UP ON DRUG DEMARCHE MADE BY AMBASSADOR MCBRIDE TO PRESIDENT LAST WEEK (SEE REFTELS) AND, 3) INVITE AG TO BREAKFAST MEETING WITH AMBASSADOR AT RESIDENCE NEXT FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 28. CHARGE ALSO INFORMED AG THAT HE EXPECTED TO SEE ACTING DEA ADMINISTRATOR BARTELS AT SAN ANTONIO MEETING NEXT MONDAY AND INQUIRED WHETHER HE HAD ANY MESSAGES OR QUESTIONS REGARDING DRUG PROGRAM (ESPECIALLY NEW PROPOSALS SUGGESTED IN DEMARCHE) TO PASS ON TO BARTELS.

2. IT WAS CLEAR FROM ENSUING CONVERSATION THAT AG IS GIVING CAREFUL THOUGHT TO DEMARCHE PROPOSALS. HE SAID THAT THEY REQUIRED THOROUGH EXAMINATION AND ASKED A NUMBER OF PROBING QUESTIONS, ESPECIALLY IN REGARD TO "COMPASS TRIP" AND HELICOPTER TASK FORCE. ON "COMPASS TRIP," QUESTIONS RANGED FROM SIZE AND TYPE OF AIRCRAFT REQUIRED, TO AREA THAT COULD BE COVERED BY SINGLE AIRCRAFT, TO SIZE AND COST OF LABORATORY
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NECESSARY TO DEVELOP AND INTERPRET PICTURES OBTAINED,

TO TIME REQUIRED TO TRAIN MEXICAN PERSONNEL IN THESE TECHNIQUES, TO HOW REMNANTS OF CROPS DESTROYED (ESPECIALLY POPPY FIELDS) WOULD SHOW UP AFTER DESTRUCTION, ETC. ON HELICOPTER PROGRAM HE WAS PARTICULARLY INTERESTED IN COSTS AND PILOT TRAINING.

3. WE ANSWERED AG'S QUESTIONS AS BEST WE COULD BUT IT IS EVIDENT THAT WE WILL REQUIRE CONSIDERABLY MORE DETAIL AND BACKGROUND INFORMATION IN FUTURE CONVERSATIONS. WE CONTEMPLATE THAT FOLLOWING NEXT FRIDAY'S BREAKFAST (WITH DEA REPRESENTATIVE IRESENT) A LIST OF SPECIFIC QUESTIONS AND GOM REACTIONS TO PR POSALS WILL BE DRAWN UP FOR TRANSMITTAL TO WASHINGTON. SUBSEQUENTLY, VISITS TO MEXICO OF KNOWLEDGEABLE TECHNICIANS IN SELECTED PROJECTS WILL PROBABLY BE REQUIRED FOR PLANNING PURPOSES.

4. ON BILATERAL MEETING OF ATTORNEYS GENERAL PLANNED TO TAKE PLACE IN WASHINGTON ON OCTOBER 29-30, ATTORNEY GENERAL OJEDA PAULLADA REFERRED TO LETTER HE HAD RECEIVED FROM MR. ELLIOT RICHARDSON AND SAID THAT IT WAS HIS UNDERSTANDING THAT MR. RICHARDSON WOULD PROPOSE WORKING AGENDA FOR THE MEETING. HE ADDED THAT HE EXPECTED AGENDA WOULD BE INFORMAL AND FLEXIBLE TO PERMIT THE TWO ATTORNEYS GENERAL TO GET TO KNOW ONE ANOTHER AND TO TOUCH ON A VARIETY OF TOPICS OF MUTUAL INTEREST.
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